



State of California
Respiratory Care Board
444 North 3rd Street, Suite 270
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone (916) 323-9983
Fax (916) 323-9999
www.rcb.ca.gov



May 25, 2000

Inquiry: Please clarify regulations regarding who can perform pulmonary function tests in a physician's office.

Response: In response to your inquiry regarding who can perform pulmonary function tests in a physician's office, please be advised that Sections 3702 and 3703 of the Respiratory Care Practice Act (RCPA) defines the practice of respiratory care and the locales where it may be practiced. These provisions require that only licensed persons, acting within their scope of practice, may practice respiratory care. Moreover, Section 3703 specifically includes "physicians' offices" as a locale where the RCPA applies. The only exemption to this provision is Section 3765(f) that provides:

"Nothing in this acts shall prohibit persons from engaging in cardiopulmonary research."

This exemption applies exclusively to research conducted for the advancement of science.

Reference # 2000-C-23